

Thursday, December 23, 1999

## STS-103 astronauts to spend Christmas in space



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

## KSC 2000 Web page has CD presentation on reorganization



▲ **Mission Update:** NASA's and KSC's Christmas stocking was filled Tuesday with the capture of the Hubble Space Telescope by the STS-103 crew. At press time, work on repairs of the telescope were to begin yesterday evening with the first EVA. Mission Specialists Steve Smith and John Grunsfeld are tackling first the most critical of the mission

objectives: replacing the failed gyroscopes with new ones. They also were to install voltage/temperature improvement kits which will protect Hubble's batteries from overcharging and overheating when in safe mode.

Today's EVA, by Mission Specialists Michael Foale and Claude Nicollier, will focus on replacing an older computer with a faster, more powerful advanced one, as well as other tasks.

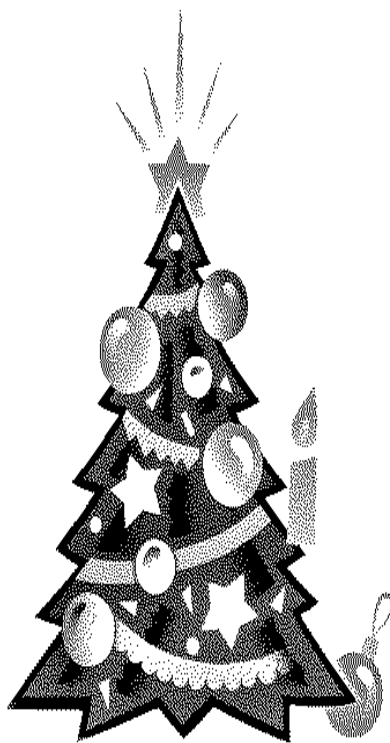
Not since Skylab in 1973 have astronauts on a U.S. mission spent Christmas in space. After the nearly 8-day mission, landing of Discovery is targeted for Dec. 27, at 5:24 p.m.

▲ **KSC 2000 Presentation on Web:** For a review of the presentation on KSC reorganization made by Center Director Roy Bridges on Dec. 20, you can find it by going directly to the Web site at [www-](http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksc2000/12_20allhands/sld001.htm)

[pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksc2000/12\\_20allhands/sld001.htm](http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksc2000/12_20allhands/sld001.htm) or via the KSC Web page <http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/> and selecting the KSC Internal Home Page button on the left, then the KSC 2000 button under "Major Projects," and under "Info Updates" in the left column, select "CD Briefing of Reorganization to Workforce."

◆ **Reminder:** Brevard Community College tuition fees are due by Jan. 3, 2000 (there is a \$30 late charge.) The BCC office will close at noon today and reopen Monday, Jan. 3. Two new courses are being offered: Meteorology, MET 2010, and College Algebra, MAC 1105. They are 8-week courses held from 2 - 4:45 p.m. You may register on line, by phone, in our office, or your local campus. If you have questions, call 449-5046.

◆ **Did You Know?** Determining whether or not 2000 is a leap year is not as easy as it seems. In the Gregorian Calendar, a year is a leap year if either (a) it is divisible by 4 but not by 100 or (b) it is divisible by 400. In other words, a year which is divisible by 4 is a leap year unless it is divisible by 100 but not by 400 (in which case it is not a leap year). Thus the years 1600 and **2000 are leap years**, but 1700, 1800, 1900 and 2100 are not. What does your calendar say?



KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/1999/1999.htm>